

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A wall structure for a building including a gap provided between a bottom edge of an interior wall cladding, said wall cladding being carried by a wall frame, and a bottom wall frame member of said frame whereby lower portions of said wall frame are accessible through said gap, and a wall skirting means adapted to fit along and support said bottom edge of said cladding and to cover said gap, said wall skirting means including a wall skirting member movable away from said wall structure to allow for access to said wall frame through said gap.

2. (Original) A wall skirting means adapted to be associated with a wall structure of a building having an interior wall cladding carried by a wall frame and in which a gap is provided between a bottom edge of said cladding and a bottom wall frame member of said frame, said wall skirting means being adapted to fit along and support said bottom edge of said wall is cladding and cover said gap, said wall skirting means including a wall skirting member movable away from said wall structure to allow for access to said wall frame through said gap.

3. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 2 wherein, said wall skirting member is secured to said wall structure by one or more clips which couple said skirting member to lower portions of upright wall frame members and/or bottom wall frame members that are exposed by said gap in said wall cladding.

4. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 2 wherein, said wall skirting member is secured to said wall structure by magnetic coupling means.

5. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 4 wherein, said magnetic coupling means includes a magnetic strip affixed to a rearwardly facing surface of said skirting member and a complementary metal strip affixed to an outwardly facing surface of a horizontal frame member of said frame, magnetic attraction between the magnetic strip and metal strip holding said skirting member in place relative to said wall frame.

6. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5 wherein, said wall skirting member includes a rebate or recess in which a lower edge of said wall skirting member is located and thereby supported.

7. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 6 where, said rebate or recess is provided in an upper inside portion of the said skirting member.

8. (Current Amended) A wall skirting means as defined in ~~any one of Claims~~ Claim 2 to 7 wherein, said bottom edge of said wall cladding is releasably connected to said wall skirting member.

9. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 8 wherein, said bottom edge is fitted with a rail and a releasable connection means is provided between said rail and said wall skirting member.

10. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 9 wherein, said releasable connection means comprises a slot or the like in said rail and a clip member extending from said wall skirting member which is releasably receivable in said slot in said rail.

11. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 10 wherein, said rail further includes a slot or channel into which said bottom edge of said wall cladding can be located.

12. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 2 wherein, a support framework is attached along said bottom edge of said wall cladding and said wall skirting member is mountable to said support framework.

13. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 12 wherein, said support framework extends between said bottom edge of said wall cladding and said bottom frame member and is affixed to said wall frame.

14. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 13 wherein, said bottom edge of said wall cladding is located in a rebate, recess or channel in an upper portion of said support framework so as to be supported longitudinally of said wall structure.

15. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in any one of Claims 12 to 14 wherein, said wall skirting member is releasably attached to said support framework.

16. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 15 wherein, said support framework includes an outwardly facing slot adapted to receive one or more securing clips or projections on a rear face of said wall skirting member.

17. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 15 wherein, a magnetic latching means is operatively connected between said support framework and said wall skirting member.

18. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 15 wherein, said wall skirting member is pivotally or hingedly mounted to said support framework.

19. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 18 wherein, a latching means is provided to releasably retain said wall skirting member in a closed position.

20. (Original) A wall skirting means as defined in Claim 19 wherein, said latching means comprises co-operable latching members on said support framework and said wall skirting member.

21. (Currently Amended) A wall skirting means as defined in ~~any one of Claims 2 to~~ Claim 20 wherein, bait containers are associated with said wall skirting means for treatment of, or attracting, termites or other insects or vermin in said wall structure.